



Global AIDS Program

Program Profile — Asia Region FY2004

Under the direction of the U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator's Office, the HHS/CDC Global AIDS Program (GAP) is a proud partner in the unified U.S. Government effort to implement the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief. GAP helps resource-constrained countries prevent HIV infection; improve treatment, care and support for people living with HIV; and build capacity and infrastructure to address the global HIV/AIDS pandemic.



About GAP Asia Region

Year Established: 2002

FY 2004 Core Funds: \$1 million US

In-country Staffing: 1 CDC Direct Hire

GAP Asia Regional Program (ARP) supports activities in five countries with established GAP programs: Cambodia, China, India, Thailand and Vietnam. ARP also supports some activities for Lao PDR, a low-resource non-presence country. ARP has five priority programming areas: training, twinning/information exchange, IDU programs, men who have sex with men (MSM) programs and cross-border programming.

The ARP Working Group, consisting of Chiefs of Party and other CDC staff in the region, meets quarterly to provide input on ARP programming. ARP resides in the Ministry of Public Health (MOPH) – U.S. CDC Collaboration (TUC). This integrated structure allows ARP to draw on the administrative and technical resources of TUC and the Thailand MOPH, including staff with expertise in sexually transmitted infections (STIs), tuberculosis (TB), behavioral science, microbiology, preventing mother-to-child-transmission (PMTCT), and information technology (IT).

HIV/AIDS Situation in the Asia Region

See individual country reports (Cambodia, China, India, Thailand, and Vietnam) for detailed information on the HIV/AIDS situation in those countries.

Number of HIV-infected individuals in Cambodia: 170,00¹

Number of HIV-infected individuals in China: 840,00¹

Number of HIV-infected individuals in India: 5.1 million¹

Number of HIV-infected individuals in Thailand: 570,00¹

Number of HIV-infected individuals in Vietnam: 220,00¹

Website:
www.cdc.gov/gap

The major challenge for the Asia Regional Program in its second year of operation has been to strategically determine how and where to efficiently intervene in a region with a population of more than 2 billion including five nations with remarkably heterogeneous national HIV profiles. ARP's activities have focused on filling needed programming gaps in the region, providing sustainable infrastructure through strong training programs and developing innovative pilot programs in the core program priority areas.



¹ UNAIDS, Report of the Global AIDS Epidemic, 2004.



FY2004 GAP Asia Region Achievements

Critical Interventions for HIV/AIDS Prevention

- ◆ Conducted executive briefing on HIV/AIDS for 25 business executives from the textile industry in Phnom Penh and 15 executives from the hotel industry in Beijing, introducing an established public-private partnership program developing safe workplaces for PLWHA.
- ◆ Supported a MSM peer education and outreach project with UNESCO's regional office in Bangkok.
- ◆ ARP funded a multi-country MSM prevention project with programs in Phnom Penh, Cambodia; Chiang Mai, Thailand; Hai Phong, Vietnam; and Vientianne, Lao PDR. Prevention information was provided to more than 8,000 individuals in less than one year's time.

Critical Intervention for HIV/AIDS Surveillance and Infrastructure Development

- ◆ Fungal opportunistic infection (OI) diagnostics: eight Vietnamese and three Cambodian laboratory scientists trained in intensive two-week course by Thai NIH experts in Bangkok August 2004; follow-up training planned in home laboratories of Vietnamese participants.
- ◆ Two Cambodian scientists trained in techniques for detecting/quantifying viral loads by TUC and Thai NIH laboratory scientists for one week in Bangkok in January; an additional four Vietnamese scientists trained in polymerase chain reaction (PCR) techniques in September.
- ◆ External Quality Assurance (EQA) Workshop: supported training by CDC Atlanta staff, and regional EQA experts from Australia and Thailand, for 10 Vietnamese, 23 Cambodian MOH Phnom Penh, 46 Cambodian laboratory public health staff to initiate laboratory EQA program in Phnom Penh, Cambodia in July.
- ◆ Information Technology (IT) staff from GAP Thailand and Atlanta conducted IT needs assessments in Vietnam and Cambodia in March and April, and assisted the GAP China office with the installation and use of a software package for project and financial management.
- ◆ Supported three international trainees from the region in Field Epidemiology Training Program (FETP) – Thailand's two-year intensive training program, and provided a full-time technical advisor for Thai and international FETP trainees.
- ◆ Convened a regional workshop on HIV/AIDS surveillance in Asia, held in Beijing in June 2004. Fifty participants from seven Asian countries discussed novel approaches to surveillance, including incidence surveillance and ARV resistance surveillance, enhancing use of data by national and provincial level staff, and quality assurance measures for surveillance programs.
- ◆ Hosted, in collaboration with the Thai MOPH, a study tour on Thailand's Comprehensive National HIV/AIDS Prevention and Care Program for 12 Chinese officials from Anhui Province. This exchange was instrumental in GAP – China's subsequent establishment of an ARV training center, located in Anhui.
- ◆ Hosted, in collaboration with the Thai MOPH, a study tour for eight Cambodian officials from Banteay Meanchay Province, on HIV/TB co-infection clinical care and program management in Thailand.
- ◆ Hosted, in collaboration with the Vietnamese MOH and GAP Vietnam, a study tour on Vietnam's comprehensive IDU peer outreach programs for eight health officials and IDU program managers from Bangkok, Thailand.
- ◆ Held two workshops on Training of Trainers (TOT) methodologies in Bangkok in August and September. The first workshop was attended by 24 Vietnamese participants; the second was attended by three participants from India, one from China, two from Cambodia, and 16 from Thailand. Faculty for the workshop included Asia Regional Section staff and GAP/Atlanta staff.
- ◆ Capacity Building for Program Improvement workshop in Bangkok: approximately 65 participants from all GAP country offices in the Asia region attended this training conducted by CDC GAP M&E staff, ORC MACRO staff and others. Each country had the opportunity to develop its CAP and raise questions regarding CAP and AR with CDC Atlanta staff.
- ◆ Hosted the "Strengthening Monitoring and Evaluation of National AIDS Programs in Asia Workshop" in Bangkok: This workshop was attended by 50 national AIDS program ministry of health staff of GAP country programs in Asia, as well as staff from UN agencies (UNAIDS), USAID, WHO, World Bank, The Global Fund, MEASURE Evaluation, and the University of North Carolina.

